GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3806
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2004
WASTAGE OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy;Patil Shri Shriniwas Dadasaheb

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether large amount of fruit and vegetables go waste in the country, as there is acute shortage of machines, inadequate storage facilities, processing facilities and other technical problems in the Rural and Semi-Urban area;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase/install the capacity of machinery, storage and provide better technical know-how to the producers; and

(d) if so, the amount spent by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI)

(a) & (b): As per the Report of Sub-Working Group on Post Harvest Management, Marketing and Export for 10th Plan, the wastage of fruits and vegetables is ranging from 8-37% at various stages of handling after harvesting.

(c): For promotion of Food Processing Industries, under Plan Schemes of Ministry of Food Processing Industries, financial assistance is provided in the form of grant for setting up of new unit or for expansion/modernisation of existing unit. Further, other schemes of the Ministry promote Food Processing Industries through infrastructure development, quality assurance, human resource development etc. Besides, other agencies like, NHB, APEDA, NCDC also provide assistance under their respective schemes.

(d): During 2003-2004, under Fruits and Vegetable Processing sector, an amount of Rs. 6.35 crores has been released by this Ministry for setting up of units/expansion/modernisation of existing units.